THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Production of mica has been shown a declining trend.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. Decline in production of mica is due to a decline in its demand in the international market. With a view to assess the future production capacity of the country and to reopon the closed mines, Geological Survey of India and Indian Bureau of Mines have taken up the detailed study in mica belts of Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan. Govenrment of India have also set up Working Groups/ Committees to investigate the problems of the mica industry. To promote the mica mining, Government have also offered a number of incentives to the exporters of mica such as withdrawl of duty on export of mica scrap and waste, and decanalisation of export of processed mica.

ITDA official meeting with local Praja Parishad

2471. SHRI YEERA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ITDA in Andhra Pradesh are stipulated to have monthly or Bimonthly meetings with the Mandal Praja Parishad Presidents in their area of operations;

(b) whether this practice has been abanded in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (b) The information is awaited from the Government of Andhra Pradesh which will be placed on the Table of the House on its receipt.

Representation by residents Welfare Association

2472. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPOYMENT be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the residents Welfare Association of J-Block, Mandir Marg, New Delhi, have submitted a representation to Government/ CPWD authorities for provision of boundary wall and Grill in the parks in the colony for the safety and convenience of the residents;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when these facilities are likely to be provided to the residents and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) The Central Government Employees Residents Welfare Association (Type B) J Block, Mandir Marg have represented for provision of bounidary wall around the Block and grills around the parks within the block.

(c) In view of the limited funds available for maintenance and repairs and the need to apply these funds for proper maintenance of the flats, it is not possible to indicate any time frame within which the works could be taken up for sanction.

Prices of molasses

2473. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the prices of molasses per litre in 1993-94 and in 1994-95;

(b) whether Government is planning to reimpose control on the distribution of molasses;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor; and

(d) the recommendations of Moily Committee in this regard?

THE MINISITER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTLIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The maximum prices of sugar mill molasses as regulated under Molasses Control Act, 1961 immediately before decontrol on the 10th June, 1993 were as follows:-

Grade of Molasses	Maximum Prices
Grade I	Rs. 14.40 per 100 kg
Grade II	Rs. 11.50
Grade III	Rs. 8.60

After decontrol, the prices of molasses are not being monitored by the Government.

(b) to (d): In order to look into various issues arising out of decontrol of molasses and alcohol, a Working Group of State Excise Ministers on molasses and alcohol was set up in the Excise Ministers Conferencne held on 4.11.93. The main recommendation of the Working Group are for partial control on distribution of molasses and alcohol. The Report was placed before the Excise Ministers Conference held recently. The views of the State Governments on the recommendations of the Working Group are being examined alongwith their legal implications.

Loans to Women of North Eastern States from Rashtriya Mahila Kosh

2474. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced provision of loan system to the women of North-Eastern States from Rashtriya Mahila Kosh during the years 1993-94 and 1994-95; and

(b) if so, the total number of women benefited so far from this kosh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMEDNT (DEPTT. OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT)(SMT. BASAVA RAJESHWARI): (a) and (b) The Rashtriya Mahila Kosh is a body with all India jurisdiction which was registered on 30.3.1993. Loans are given to individual beneficiaries through identified intermediary agencies. The first loan assistance in North-Eastern States was extended in 1994-95 to cover 2000 beneficiaries.

Teaching of Courses in Hindi Medium in Ignou

2475. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister for HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indira Gandhi National Open University proposes to start the teaching of all the courses in Hindi medium from the current academic session which were being taught in English medium;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) by when the courses taught in english are likely to be available in Hindi medium in the University; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this direction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE)): (KM. SELJA): (a) to (d) According to information furnished by the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), 21 programmes are offered in both Hindi and English. In seven other progrmmes, which are offered in English, the students are permitted to write the assignments and terminal examinations in Hindi medium also. 85 programmes, most of which are professional/ technical in nature are offered in English only. While it would be the endeavour of the Uiversity to progressively offer as many programmes as possible in both English and Hindi, it would take time to offer every programme in Hindi as the preparation of self-instructional material of high quality involves a number of processes such as getting material translated and identification of suitable experts in translation, vetting of translated material by other experts; etc. before getting them printed.

The Delhi Rent Bill

2476. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 638, 678 and 683 given in the Rajya Sabha on 4th August, 1995 regarding the Delhi Rent Bill and state:

(a) whether Government have come to any final conclusion in respect of the representations received for and against the Delhi Rent Bill, which has been passed by both the Houses of Parliament and is awaiting the assent of the President if so, the present position in this regard;